GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5375
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2002
UNCULTIVATED/DEGRADED WASTELAND
MOHAN RAWALE

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any comprehensive scheme is being implemented to use the million hectares of uncultivated and degraded wasteland which is not generating any benefit either to rural population or the country as a whole;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA)

(a) to (c) The Department of Land Resources in Ministry of Rural Development addresses the task of developing wastelands/degraded lands including uncultivable private lands by putting such lands into productive use are increasing the availability of bio-mass especially fuel-wood and fodder and also to prevent further degradation through three major Programmes namely the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme(IWDP), the Drought Prone Areas Programmes (DPAP) and the Deser Development Programme(DDP). The Programmes are being implemented through wasteshed approach as per Guidelines for Watershed Development w.e.f. 1.4.1995. Since then, 423 IWDP projects to develop an area of 37.22 lakh hectares, 13,790 DPAP projects to develop an area of 68.95 lakh hectares and 6,712 DDP projects to develop an area of 33.56 lakh hectares have been sanctioned and are at various stages of implementation.